

ABSTRACT

A five stage TRACE cognitive process model provides the system framework for discovering, developing, exchanging, applying, and integrating knowledge in individual and group problem-solving tasks. The user interacts with the system using a question prompt and response mode via the user interface, which is coupled to the TRACE Knowledge Processor. One embodiment of the present invention is software (local or web-based) that supply a general template with prompts to aid the user in complex creative tasks, such as preparing a plan, developing a curriculum, or designing a project. The present invention enables the users to generate and organize ideas, and finally to present their results in a format that is easily searchable, accessible, and a resource for future users of the system. The present invention enables the user to organize ideas for innovation and communication with collaborators and for assessment by team leaders or instructors.